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Case SA 109

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Joachim Sacher et al

Title: LASER DIODE ARRANGEMENT WITH EXTERNAL RESONATOR

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 20, 2004

SIR:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - SECTION 1.97(b)

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicants' representative hereby submits US Patent & Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. Copies of the references cited therein are submitted for consideration in the examination of the above-referenced patent application. It is respectfully requested that they be made of record, along with whatever references the Examiner may find in the course of a search, should the Examiner consider them material to the subject application.

The closest prior art is considered to be the Applicant's own US 5 867 512.

The reference, however, does not disclose that in a laser diode arrangement for generating single mode tunable laser radiation wherein the laser diode forms a first resonator and has rear and front facets and a second external resonator is coupled to the first resonator, and an optical transmission component and a wavelength selective optical reflection element are arranged in the laser light path from the laser diode for direction part of the laser light into the external resonator and coupling it back into the first

resonator, means are provided for changing the coupling quality of the first resonator to the external, second resonator.

This Statement is hereby submitted under Section 1.97(b) since it is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

Klaus J. Bach, Reg. No.: 26832

